



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/933,321

08/20/2001

Vikram Kapoor

CS11343

7056

20280

7590

07/22/2008

MOTOROLA INC

600 NORTH US HIGHWAY 45

W4 - 39Q

LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048-5343

EXAMINER

AMINZAY, SHAIMA Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2618

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/22/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

DOCKETING.LIBERTYVILLE@MOTOROLA.COM

ADB035@Motorola.com



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 09/933,321
Filing Date: August 20, 2001
Appellant(s): KAPOOR ET AL.

KAPOOR ET AL
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 6/05/2008 appealing from the Office action mailed 1/30/2008.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

The amendment after final rejection filed on 6/5/2008 has been entered.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

6058,319 Sadler 3-5-1997.

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language..

Claims 8-10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sadler (Sadler, U. S. No. Patent No. 6058,319).

Regarding claim 8, Sadler discloses an audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile electronic device to an audiocassette player (*Figures 1-3, col. 1, lines 5-8, lines 44-57,*

col. 2, lines 12-16, lines 34-44, lines 64-67, col. 3, lines 1-6, the cassette (audiocassette) adapter (50) for connecting the mobile device (12, mobile electronic device) to an audio cassette player), comprising: a cassette head coupling device (e.g. Fig. 3, col. 3, lines 7-11, col. 4, lines 13-21, the cassette head connecting device (60)); a mobile electronic device input coupled to the cassette head coupling device (e.g. Fig. 1-3, col. 2, lines 34-44, 64-67, col. 3, lines 7-11, col. 4, lines 13-21, the mobile device (12) input connected to the cassette head connecting device (60)); an audiocassette player command signal generator (e.g., Fig. 1-3, col. 1, lines 50-57, col. 2, lines 56-67, col. 3, lines 7-11, 24-43, the audiocassette player command signal generator (84, 70)); a control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator (e.g., Fig. 1-3, col. 1, 47-57, col. 2, lines 56-67, col. 3, lines 7-11, 24-33, the audio cassette player command signals such as play-back and other standard functions of cassette player is being combined with the user controlled signals from the mobile).

Regarding claim 9, Sadler teaches all the claimed limitation as recited in claim 8, further, Sadler teaches the audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding audiocassette player commands (e.g., Fig. 1-3, col. 1, 47-57, col. 2, lines 56-67, col. 3, lines 7-11, 24-33, 39-43, the audio cassette player command signals generator (84, 70) outputs the specific control responding to the cassette player).

Regarding claim 10, Sadler teaches all the claimed limitation as recited in claim 8, and

Art Unit: 2618

further, Sadler teaches the audiocassette player command signal generator (*e.g.*, *Fig. 1-3, col. 1, 47-57, col. 2, lines 56-67, col. 3, lines 7-11, 24-33, 39-43*) comprising a rotational transducer (*e.g. Fig. 3 (84)*) with a transducer output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter (*e.g., Fig. 1-3, col. 1, 47-57, col. 2, lines 56-67, col. 3, lines 7-11, 24-33, 39-43*).

Regarding claim 12, Sadler teaches all the claimed limitation as recited in claim 8, further, Sadler teaches the audiocassette player command signal generator (*e.g., Fig. 1-3, col. 1, 47-57, col. 2, lines 56-67, col. 3, lines 7-11, 24-33, 39-43*) comprising a cassette head (*e.g. Fig. 3 (84)*) actuatable switch with a switch output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter (*e.g., Fig. 3, items 46, 44, T1, T2; and col. 4, lines 36-67, the audio cassette adapter control signal output is coupled with the cassette head actuatable switch (e.g., T1, T2, 46, and 444)*).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 and 16-20 are allowable, and claims 11 and 13-15 are objected.

Claims 11 and 13-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art specifically Sadler failed to render obviousness and failed to anticipate the following underlined limitations:

“An audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile electronic device to an audiocassette player, comprising: a cassette head coupling device; a mobile electronic device input coupled to the cassette head coupling device;
an audiocassette player command signal generator; a control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator”, and “the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotatable spur gear having a conductive portions separated by nonconductive portions, first and second slide contacts contacting the rotatable spur gear” as disclosed in claims 8 and 11.

“An audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile electronic device to an audiocassette player, comprising: a cassette head coupling device; a mobile electronic device input coupled to the cassette head coupling device;
an audiocassette player command signal generator; a control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator”, and “the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a momentary switch including first and second contacts, one of the first and second contacts disposed on a spring biased cassette head actuatable member” as disclosed in claims 8 and 13.

“An audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile electronic device to an audiocassette

player, comprising: a cassette head coupling device; a mobile electronic device input coupled to the cassette head coupling device;

an audiocassette player command signal generator; a control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator”, “the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising an cassette head actuatable switch, the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer; a logic device having an output coupled to the control signal output; a switch output of the audiocassette player head actuatable switch coupled to an input of the logic device, a transducer output of the rotational transducer coupled to another input of the logic device”, and “the audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding audiocassette player commands” as disclosed in claims 8, 14, and 15.

(10) Response to Argument

Drawing Objection:

Appellant’s brief presents arguments relating to a drawing objection. This issue relates to petitionable subject matter under 37 CFR 1.181 and not to appealable subject matter.

See MPEP § 1002 and § 1201.

Regardless, Applicant argues (*Remarks page 5*) that “*According to the original disclosure, the “command signal generator” comprises a “rotational transducer”. In the exemplary embodiment of FIG. 3, the “rotational transducer” is implemented in the form of a spur gear (302) ...*”.

Examiner agrees with the applicant that the original discloser states that the “command signal generator” comprising a “rotational transducer”, however, Examiner disagrees that *“In the exemplary embodiment of FIG. 3, the “rotational transducer” is implemented in the form of a spur gear (302) ...”*, the specification FIG. 3 and description on paragraph [26], lines 4-9, and paragraphs [27] through [30] does not specifically refer to designator or clearly shows the “command signal generator” comprising a “rotational transducer” in any of the Figures, for example, in specification paragraph [26], lines 4-9 states *“In FIG. 3, for example, the cassette adapter 300 comprises a rotatable spur gear 302 having conductive portions 304 separated by nonconductive portions 306. First and second slide contacts 308 mounted on some portion of the cassette adapter 300 are biased into contact with the rotatable spur gear 302. As the gear 302 rotates, the conductive portions 304 thereof periodically electrically interconnect the contacts 308 depending on the rotational position of the gear”*, however, the specification does not clearly shows and/or designate the illustrations of “command signal generator” comprising a “rotational transducer” in any of the inventions Figures, therefore, Drawing Objections maintained.

Claim 8-10, and 12 rejections under Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102(e):

Applicant’s arguments with respect to claims 8-10, and 12, under 35 U.S.C.102(e)

Rejection has been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

Claim 8

The applicant argues (*see Brief p. 5-7*) that the reference Sadler does not teach the features in the claims such as “*An audiocassette adapter for coupling a mobile electronic device to an audiocassette player, comprising: a cassette head coupling device; a mobile electronic device input coupled to the cassette head coupling device; an audiocassette player command signal generator; a control signal output coupled to the audiocassette player command signal generator*”, “*the audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding audiocassette player commands*”, “*the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer with a transducer output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter*”, the Examiner disagrees. Sadler clearly shows that (*e.g., Fig. 1-3*) the audiocassette adapter (50) for connecting the mobile device (12) to an audio cassette player, consists of the cassette head connecting device (60), wherein the mobile device (12) input connected to the cassette head connecting device (60), the audiocassette player command signal generator (84, 70) that generates the audio cassette player command signals such as play-back and other standard functions of cassette player as it is described in applicant’s specification (*e.g. Fig. 5, paragraph [10], lines 1-4, [32], lines 1-8*) “*In FIG. 1, an audiocassette adapter 10 comprises a cassette head coupling device 12, for example a stereo audio transducer, for coupling to a cassette player head, or cassette head, as is well known in the art*”, “*FIG. 5 illustrates an exemplary set of unique control signals corresponding to common audiocassette commands, PLAY, FF (Head down) FF (Head up), REWIND (Head up), REWIND (Head down), and STOP/PAUSE, generated by the exemplary rotational transducer and cassette head actuatable switch. These*

unique signals may be used to control functions of a portable electronic device. A user may thus control a cellular phone or multimedia device with readily accessible audiocassette command controls, for example those on an automobile dashboard” is being combined with the user controlled signals from the mobile, and the audio cassette player command signals generator (84, 70) outputs the specific control responding to the cassette player commands to perform standard functions (*e.g. Fig. 3, col 1, 47-57*), and the audio cassette adapter control signal output is coupled with the cassette head actuatable switch (*e.g., Fig 3 (T1, T2, 46, 44)*).

Further, applicant argues that Sadler does not include any structure corresponding to the “*audiocassette player command signal generator*”. Examiner disagrees, Sadler clearly shows the structure corresponding to the audio cassette player command signal generator (84, 70) outputs the specific control responding to the cassette player (*e.g., Fig. 1-3, col. 3, 7-11, 24-33, 39-43*).

It appears that the applicants' arguments mainly rest on the allegation that Sadler merely “transfers” audio signals and does not “generate” audio signals (see Brief p. 6). Neither the claims nor the applicants’ specification though clearly define what is meant by “generate”, and the applicant has provided no further support of his argued definition. Without such an explicit definition, the Examiner asks why Sadler’s cassette-head (84) with circuit (70) that is coupled to switch circuit 60 and the microphone (20) could not be reasonably considered to “generate” a command signal. In fact, column 7, lines 35-40 state that the accessory generates an enabling signal, and further, the applicant specification (*specification paragraphs [28] and [32]*) states that the “cassette head”

included in “generator”.

Further, applicant argues that Sadler does not disclose a “rotational transducer”.

Examiner disagrees, Sadler clearly shows the “rotational transducer” that is well known in the art and it is described in the applicant’s specification (*e.g. Fig. 5, paragraph [10], lines 1-4, [32], lines 1-4*) “*In FIG. 1, an audiocassette adapter 10 comprises a cassette head coupling device 12, for example a stereo audio transducer, for coupling to a cassette player head, or cassette head, as is well known in the art*”, “*FIG. 5 illustrates an exemplary set of unique control signals corresponding to common audiocassette commands, PLAY, FF (Head down) FF (Head up), REWIND (Head up), REWIND (Head down), and STOP/PAUSE, generated by the exemplary rotational transducer and cassette head actuatable switch.*” and the dictionary Wikipedia meaning “*a device that receives a signal in the form of one type of energy and converts it to a signal in another form*” for example “*transducer that converts acoustic energy into electrical impulses*”, for example Schalk (*U.S Patent No. 5,001,585*) describes the rotational transducer or head drums (*e.g. col 1, 5-9, 16-29, 42-44*) that is used in a tape recorder, the above certainly confirms that Sadler clearly shows the audio cassette heads (*e.g. Fig 3(84)*) as part of the recording and playing wheels of the cassette player that is well known in the art as the “rotational transducer” and it is included in the signal generator circuit (84, 70) (Sadler, *e.g. Abstract: 1-16, col 1, 47-57*).

Claim 9

The applicant argues (*see Brief p. 7*) that the reference Sadler does not teach the

features in the claim such as “*the audiocassette player command signal generator for outputting unique control signals in response to corresponding audiocassette player command*”, the Examiner disagrees. Sadler clearly shows that audio cassette player command signals generator (84, 70) outputs the specific control responding to the cassette player (*e.g., Fig. 1-3, 1:47-57, 2:56-67, 3:7-11, 24-33, 39-43*).

Claim 10

The applicant argues (*see Brief p. 8*) that the reference Sadler does not teach the features in the claim such as “*the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a rotational transducer with a transducer output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter*”, the Examiner disagrees. Sadler clearly shows the audio cassette heads (*e.g. Fig 3(84)*) included in the signal generator circuit (84, 70) to control output signal of the audiocassette adapter such as the recording and playing (*e.g., Fig. 1-3, 1:47-57, 2:56-67, 3:7-11, 24-33, 39-43*).

Claim 12

The applicant argues (*see Brief p. 8-9*) that the reference Sadler does not teach the features in the claim such as “*the audiocassette player command signal generator comprising a cassette head actuatable switch with a switch output coupled to the control signal output of the audiocassette adapter*”, the Examiner disagrees. Sadler clearly shows that audio cassette player command signals generator (84, 70) and the audio cassette adapter control signal output is coupled with the cassette head actuatable switch

Art Unit: 2618

(e.g., Fig 3 (T1, T2, 46, 44)) that is connected to the control output (e.g. speaker (44)) of the audiocassette.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

/SHAIMA Q. AMINZAY/
Examiner, Art Unit 2618

Conferees:
/Matthew D. Anderson/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2618

/Edward Urban/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2618